

progress that Croatia has made in military modernization and in other aspects of the program outlined for the country in the MAP. That evening Ambassador Bradtke arranged for us to meet with members of the Croatian parliament, including opposition figures and key members of the foreign policy and defense committees, as well as independent voices in Croatia. This meeting allowed us to hear a wide range of views beyond those in the government, and added to our ability to evaluate Croatia's progress in the MAP. There is a consensus that significant progress has been made over the past several years. A key issue was the relatively low level of public support—somewhat over 50%—in the population for NATO membership, a figure that appears to be climbing. There must also continue to be progress made in the fight against corruption.

The following day we flew first to the Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), then to Albania. In Macedonia, our ambassador gave us a briefing that touched on several issues of relevance. The delegation then proceeded to meetings with Macedonian President Crvenkovski, Prime Minister Gruevski, and other senior officials, including General Stojanovski, the chief of defense forces. The internal political situation in the country remains complicated and unsettled, and issues range well beyond ethnic divisions in the country. Macedonian troops serve in NATO operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and we met several soldiers who had returned from assignments there. A key issue in NATO is the formal name of the country, and there are continuing discussions with Greece to attempt to reach a compromise under U.N.-sponsored talks. We are hopeful that Skopje and Athens can reach a settlement of this issue, and that Macedonia's candidacy for NATO can be judged solely on its qualifications under the MAP.

In Albania we met with President Topi and with Prime Minister Berisha. We also met with members of parliament from both the governing parties and the opposition. We were accompanied throughout our meetings by U.S. Ambassador Withers, who provided an overview of developments in Albania. There are conflicting views on the depth of the problem caused by organized crime and corruption in Albania, and this was one issue raised in our discussions with government officials. While laws have been passed to fight crime and corruption, it may be useful for Congress in the coming months to examine the degree to which such legislation has been implemented. It should be said that Albania, although a poor country, by all accounts has made progress in downsizing and modernizing its military.

The Serbian reaction to Kosovo's independence time and again surfaced during our meetings. In the coming months, we are likely to see a range of ideas raised for and against the possible membership of the "Adriatic 3" in the alliance. These are small countries with correspondingly small militaries; they must concentrate on niche capabilities to make a contribution to allied security, and each is making progress along this road. Given the continuing tensions in the region in part brought on by Serbia's reaction to Kosovo's independence, proponents of the three governments' candidacies are likely to argue that their developing democracies and contributions to multinational, cooperative efforts to bring stability are factors in their favor. These

are issues that my delegation and other Members of Congress will be considering in the coming months.

As always, members of the United States military contributed greatly to the success of this trip. The logistics of such a trip, compressed into a tight time frame, are complicated and require lengthy and detailed preparation. Our crew was from the 932nd Air Wing at Scott AFB, Illinois. This is an Air Force Reserve unit, and they did an outstanding job. I thank them for their hard work and their dedication to duty.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE ADAMS, GERALD HAYS, AND MARCEL SHIPP

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call your attention the lives of three fellow natives of my hometown, Paterson, New Jersey, Mike Adams, Gerald Hayes, and Marcel Shipp, who will be honored this evening by the Murph Boys Charitable Association, not only for their impressive athletic achievements, but for all they have done for others in need.

Each of these men began his journey in Paterson, New Jersey, and attended the same high school, Passaic County Technical Institute, PCTI, in Wayne.

In his career at PCTI, Adams earned all-state honors, as well as all-area and all-county, and was chosen as one of the top 100 players in New Jersey. He was outgoing and well-rounded, also lettering in track and baseball. He is remembered at PCTI for his tenacity and perseverance, overcoming many obstacles to succeed. He took this "can-do" attitude to the University of Delaware, where he started 23 of 43 career games, and posted 213 tackles, 11 interceptions, and 14 PBU, and ranks 11th in school history in interceptions. He entered the NFL in 2004 as an undrafted free agent and signed with the San Francisco 49ers. He made his NFL debut in November 2004 and by the next year appeared in 14 games. In 2005 he started 10 games, posting 68 tackles, a sack, a forced fumble, and tied for the team lead with four interceptions. In 2006 he started eight games and played in all 16, recording 67 tackles, three PBU, and 12 special teams tackles. After 3 years in San Francisco he signed as a free agent with the Cleveland Browns, recording 29 tackles, a sack, and two PBU in 2007 before a knee injury placed him on injured reserve.

During his time as a PCTI Bulldog, Gerald Hayes impressed coaches from the start and was a 4-year varsity player. He was a dominating player on the field, and off the field, won numerous awards in fine arts, and his pencil drawings were displayed in galleries throughout the State. He went on to play college football at Pittsburgh, and was a three-time first-team all-Big East selection. His career statistics at Pittsburgh include 387 tackles, 13.5 sacks, nine pass deflections, and two interceptions. He was chosen in the third round of the 2003 draft by the Cardinals, and by 2004 he saw action in every 2004 game, and was poised to start in 2005 before suf-

fering a season-ending injury in the preseason. He made his return in 2006, starting 14 games, leading the team in tackles with 111, despite missing the last two games with an injury. He had another successful season in 2007, with 98 tackles, four sacks, an interception, and three passes deflected.

Shipp was a quiet unassuming leader while at PCTI. He knew what he wanted to achieve and worked hard to reach his goal. He was an all-state selection as a senior, running for 1,510 yards and 24 touchdowns on 172 carries. Shipp then played 1 year at Milford Academy Prep, gaining 3,239 yards and 42 touchdowns on 429 carries. He then went on to the University of Massachusetts and is one of the school's most decorated athletes. He was the 6th ranked rusher in the history of NCAA Division 1-AA, with 5,383 yards. He gained over 100 yards 33 times, including 7 200-yard efforts. He holds UMass career records with 1,215 carries for 6,250 yards, 58 touchdowns, 378 points, and 7,759 all purpose yards. He signed in 2001 with the Arizona Cardinals as an undrafted free agent and as a rookie played in 10 games. He ended 2002 with 1,247 total yards, on 226 touches, a 5.5-yard average that was 2nd in the NFC. In 2003 he shared running back duties with Emmitt Smith until an injury sidelined Smith, and Shipp started the final 11 games. He gained 830 yards on 228 carries. He was the first Cardinal since 1992 to log back-to-back 100-yard games. He missed the 2004 season with an injury, but came back in 2005 to lead the team in rushing with 451 yards on 157 attempts. In 2006 he finished the season with four rushing touchdowns in the final four games and became the first Cardinal to rush for three touchdowns in one game since 1998.

What is most special about these three men is not what they achieve on the field, but what they do off of it. They all dedicate time and financial support to help those who are in need through charitable endeavors. Never taking their success for granted, they look for ways to make their communities a better place to live.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to being able to recognize the charitable community efforts of Americans like Mr. Adams, Mr. Hayes, and Mr. Shipp.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, everyone at Passaic County Technical Institute, all those who have been touched by the generosity of these men, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of Mike Adams, Gerald Hayes, and Marcel Shipp to their communities.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ZANE STATE COLLEGE FOR ITS  
INCLUSION IN WASHINGTON  
MONTHLY'S LIST OF THE TOP 30  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Zane State College is ranked ninth among two-year colleges in the nation according to a report released by Washington Monthly; and